



Act: Protect Human Rights in the Climate Emergency

Context

- The Republic of Chile and the Republic of Colombia have submitted a [request](#) for an advisory opinion to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights.
- AOs are responses from international courts to legal questions on a specific subject.
- The forthcoming opinion from the Court presents a key opportunity to clarify the legal obligations of States to protect human rights within the framework of the climate emergency.



Why is it important for the youth to get involved?

- This is a unique opportunity to influence the development of law pertaining to addressing climate change and the protection of our human rights.
- Youth have a voice and a central role in the fight against the climate emergency, and the Court can benefit from our narratives about best practices, challenges, and needs.
- Additionally, it's essential for the Court to specify the particular measures States should adopt to protect our rights and those of future generations in the short and long term.



- Everyone who submits written observations can also participate in the public hearings convened by the Court, allowing those most affected to communicate directly with the Inter-American judges.

How can I participate?

- You should send a written document with your arguments to the Court at the email tramite@corteidh.or.cr no later than December 18, 2023.
- It's important that the document is signed by the individuals submitting it, or by the legal representative of the organization.
- If you or your organization need guidance on how to participate in the process, you can send an email to latinamerica@wy4cj.org and we will gladly assist you!

What are some tips for submitting my observations?

- Try to be straight to the point. The Court will receive numerous observations, and it's crucial that your message stands out. For this reason, we recommend you choose one core theme on which you'd like to present your written opinion.
- Additionally, the Court can benefit from other types of non-strictly legal inputs, such as public policy analysis, science, and testimonies from affected individuals.
- We also advise summarizing your main arguments and recommendations in a two-page executive summary.



Useful resources/further reading

- [Youth Climate Justice Handbook, Legal Memorandum, World's Youth for Climate Justice and Pacific Island Students Fighting Climate Change](#)
- [Another Advisory Opinion on the Climate Emergency? The Added Value of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights - Juan Auz, Thalia Viveros-Uehara, EJIL Talk](#)
- [The Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Climate Emergency - José Daniel Rodríguez Orúe, Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore](#)
- [Climate Justice in International Courts: Working Towards a Livable Future - Centre for International Law, National University of Singapore](#)
- [Inter-American Court of Human Rights Will Issue Advisory Opinion to Guide States on their Obligations to Address the Climate Emergency - IGSD](#)